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# By the Numbers
# Los Alamos National Laboratory

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), located in Los Alamos, New Mexico, was established in 1943 as Site Y of the Manhattan Project for a single purpose: to design and build an atomic bomb. It took just 20 months to detonate the world's first atomic bomb 200 miles south of Los Alamos at the Trinity Site on the Alamogordo bombing range. The Department of Energy's Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) investigates hazardous chemical and radioactive materials contamination as a result of past LANL operations and remediates sites where such materials are found above acceptable regulatory levels. This is known as the legacy cleanup mission.

Cleanup locations include sites of former LANL buildings, hillsides, canyon bottoms, and old landfills. Mission activities include surface and groundwater monitoring and remediation, removing contaminated soil, and decontaminating and decommissioning surplus process-contaminated buildings. Cleanup of contaminated sites follows the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent with the New Mexico Environment Department.

Additionally, EM-LA retrieves, remediates, packages, and disposes of radioactive waste. Most low-level and mixed low-level waste is transported from LANL and disposed of in commercially licensed facilities, while transuranic waste is disposed of at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

## 40

**monitoring, extraction, and injection wells** have been installed in and around the hexavalent chromium plume at LANL. These wells have supported characterization and controlled migration of the plume.

## 2,100

**potentially contaminated sites** were originally identified for action, ranging from small spills to large landfills.

## Over 445 million

**gallons of water** have been treated—about 674 Olympic-size swimming pools—and almost 700 pounds of hexavalent chromium have been removed from the regional aquifer.

## 511

**cubic meters of transuranic waste**—approximately 2,454 55-gallon drums—shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

## In 2025

EM will initiate deactivation and decommissioning of Building 257, industrial waste lines, and DP West slabs in Technical Area 21.

## 397

**Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern** are monitored to capture storm water runoff at 239 site management areas across LANL.

## >1/2

**of contaminated sites** have been investigated and, if needed, remediated. More than 19,800 soil and sediment samples have been collected.

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